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Applicants:

Tomoyuki Narumi et al.

Group No.:

2644

Serial No.:

09/909,197

Examiner:

Not Assigned

Filed:

July 19, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first

class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on

this date:

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12/18/01

Date

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Attorney

Docket No.:

0153/83085

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

FEB 2 8 2002

Sir:

Technology Center 2600

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicants submit the following statement consisting of:

- I. A list of patents (and attached Form PTO-1449).
- II. General Remarks.

A copy of each of the following listed documents is enclosed herewith.

I. PATENTS

U.S. Patent No.	Date of Issue	Patentee(s)
3,371,260	02/27/68	W. C. Jackson et al.
3,536,981	10/27/70	D. R. Locke et al.
3,539,898	11/10/70	R. J. Tolmie
3,644,873	02/22/72	Wayne D. Dalton et al.
4,670,701	06/02/87	Yukinobu Sako et al.
5,479,486	12/26/95	Mitsuroh Saji

5,525,888	06/11/96	Shoichi Toya
5,550,452	08/27/96	Ichiro Shirai et al.
5,659,236	08/19/97	Stan S. Hahn
5,680,028	10/21/97	Alexander McEachern
5,731,683	03/24/98	Hideki Nakanishi
5,867,798	02/02/99	Shinichiro Inukai et al.
6,112,414	09/05/00	Matthew L. Andis et al.
6,204,632	03/20/01	David S. Nierescher et al.

II. GENERAL REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the above-listed patents and publications be given consideration by the Examiner and made of record in the subject patent application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Listed Documents are U.S. patents and are enclosed herewith.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to, anticipates, or renders obvious the subject invention.

The cited documents disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the documents and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

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The citation of any documents herein is not to be construed as an admission that

the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that

the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may

be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is

otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant

invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is

distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures

of the art and documents recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a

claim in the instant patent application. The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is

not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in

existence.

Respectfully submitted,

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